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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Khripach et al.
Serial No.: 10/711,162
Filed: August 28, 2004
For: Natural plant compound with
anti-HIV activity

Group Art Unit: 1654
Examiner: Gupta, Anish
Confirmation Number: 5161
Customer Number: 42553.

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In response to the Office action as of May30, 2007, issued in connection with the above application, please consider the following remarks.

1. In accordance with the Part 3 of your Conclusion Letter (Art Unit: 1654) Claims 12-13 are rejected because of the absence of "...any convincing evidence that their immunoconjugate is indeed useful for an anti-HIV treatment or for a binding assay..." (pg. 3, line 7-8), and because of this absence "... the specification fails to provide an enabling disclosure." (pg. 3, line 11).

Firstly, authors would like to remark that there is no immunoconjugate mentioning and claimed in the Patent Application, but the only discussing compound is 24-epibrassinolide, a plant hormone whose HIV-inhibiting activity has never been known before.

The general idea of the Part 3, under which the Claims 12-13 are rejected, is as following: "The treatment of HIV has not been enabled by the instant